City Of Philadelphia
Michael A. Nutter, Mayor

Proclamation

Research suggests that a strong family structure translates to the social and economic well-being of children. Two-parent, married families produce children who are more likely to be law-abiding, resist drugs and violence, complete higher education, excel in their desired career and become healthy, self-sufficient adults.

In 2007, the National Conference of Black Mayors (NCBM) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the United States Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families (ACF) to focus on strengthening families through ACF's Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood initiatives.

The Healthy Marriage Initiative helps married couples gain greater access to marriage education services on a voluntary basis. The Responsible Fatherhood Initiative educates fathers on how to improve their relationships, reconnect with their children and encourage fatherhood within the context of marriage.

Through the acknowledgement of a healthy marriage and increased paternal presence, our communities will grow safer and more productive, relationships will flourish and future generations will always be able to count on a family member for positive guidance.

THEREFORE...

I, Michael A. Nutter, Mayor of the City of Philadelphia, do hereby proclaim March 2009, as

Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood Month

in Philadelphia, and urge all Philadelphians and their families to reflect on the importance of family in our communities.

Michael A. Nutter
Mayor

Given under my hand and the Seal of the City of Philadelphia, on this first day of March, two thousand and nine.